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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 128011
ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: IO/LAB:SWHILDEN
APPROVED BY: IO:GADALLEY
----------030714Z 047885 /16
R 030213Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 4346 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ACCRA, USUN NEW YORK, LISBON, OTTAWA, TOKYO, CANBERRA, MELBOURNE, OSLO, STOCKHOLM, HELSINKI, MOSCOW, ALL EC CAPITALS 02 JUN 77

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 4346

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO, PLAB, UN, GH, XA
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC) ELECTS OFFICERS

1. SUMMARY: MINISTER OF LABOR OF GHANA, CAPT. J.K. AMEDUME WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE 63RD SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC). THE VICE-PRESIDENTS ARE: GOVERNMENT VICE-PRESIDENT, POLISH AMBASSADOR NASZKOWSKI; EMPLOYER VICE-PRESIDENT COATES (UK); AND WORKER VICE-PRESIDENT IRVING BROWN (US). FOLLOWING ILO CUSTOM OFFICERS ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION IN PLENARY SESSION. BROWN'S ELECTION WAS PROTESTED BY COMMUNIST WORKER REPS. THEIR ALLEGATIONS WERE EFFECTIVELY REBUTTED BY LEADERS OF THE MAJORITY OF THE ILO WORKERS GROUP. END SUMMARY.

2. GHANIAN MINISTER OF LABOR, SOCIAL WELFARE AND
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COOPERATIVES CAPT. J. K. AMEDUME ELECTED JUNE 1 PRESIDENT OF 63RD SESSION OF ILC. AMEDUME'S ELECTION WAS EXPECTED BECAUSE IT IS AFRICA'S TURN FOR ILC PRESIDENCY AND AMEDUME WAS THE CHOICE OF THE AFRICAN REGIONAL CAUCUS. USDEL HOROWITZ WAS AMONG THOSE SECODING AMEDUME NOMINATION. AMEDUME ACCEPTANCE SPEECH WAS CONCILIATORY IN TONE AND INCLUDED CALL FOR CONSENSUS WITH SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE

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AND MUTUAL ACCOMMODATION. HE LINKED ILO AND UN IN
DESCRIBING ILO AS SOCIAL CONSCIENCE OF UN AND ORGANIZATION
WHICH CANNOT BE JUDGED APART FROM REST OF UN SYSTEM. HE
STATED ILO AIM IS TO CORRECT IMBALANCE BETWEEN RICH AND
POOR COUNTRIES IN EVOLUTION TOWARD NEW INTERNATIONAL
ECOMONIC ORDER. TEXT OF AMEDUME ADDRESS BEING POUCHED TO
ACCRA AND DEPARTMENT (AF).

3. COMMUNIST WORKERS, IN UNPRECEDENTED MOVE, PROTESTED
ELECTION OF BROWN BY WORKERS GROUP (ILC PLENARY ALWAYS
ACCEPTS NOMINEES OF EMPLOYER AND WORKER GROUPS FOR
EMPLOYER AND WORKER VICE PRESIDENCIES). USSR WORKER
PIMENTOV ACCUSED WORKERS GROUP OF FAILING TO CONSULT 40 PERCENT
OF ITS MEMBERS (READ COMMUNISTS AND ARABS) AND OF FAIL-
ING TO TAKE RECORD VOTE IN NOMINATING BROWN. HE ACCUSED
AFL-CIO AS BELIEVING ILO WAS USELESS IN PRESENT FORM AND
OF THREATENING TO LEAVE ILO IF THEIR DEMANDS CONCERNING
ISRAELI RESOLUTION OF 1974 AND ARTICLE 17 AMENDMENT ARE
NOT MET. HE OPPOSED BROWN AS THE REP OF THE AFL-CIO
AND OF "COUNTRY WHICH WILL LEAVE ILO IN A SHORT TIME."
PIMENOV ASKED THAT HIS REMARKS BE PUT INTO ILC RECORD.
PIMENOV WAS FOLLOWED BY CUBAN, IRAQI AND PORTUGUESE
(FERNANDO RANA) WORKER REPS, WHO MADE SIMILAR STATEMENTS.
IRAQI ALSO PROTEXTED BROWN'S OPPOSITION TO 74 RESOLU-
TION; RANA ACCUSED BROWN OF OPPOSING "EQUAL PARTICIPA-
TION" IN ILO OF ALL REGIONS.

4. JOE MORRIS (CANADA), LEADER OF WORKER GROUP AND
CYRIL PLANT (UK WORKER REP) DEFENDED NOMINATION OF
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BROWN BY WORKER GROUP. MORRIS REGRETTED MATTER HAD
BEEN BROUGHT TO PLENARY ON "SPURIOUS REASON" THAT BROWN'S
NOMINATION HAD NOT BEEN MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING
ORDER AND PRACTICE OF THE WORKERS GROUP. MORRIS EXPLAINS
BROWN HAD BEEN UNOPPOSED WHEN NOMINATED AR WORKERS GROUP
MEETING MAY 31 AND HAD WON NOMINATION MORNING OF JUNE 1
BY MORE THAN 60 PERCENT OF VOTE. PLANT ALSO DEFENDED PROCEDURAL
VALIDITY OF BROWN'S NOMINATION AND ACCUSED PIMENOV OF
PERSONAL ATTACK ON MORRIS. PLANT SAID VOTE WAS 60 FOR
BROWN, 40 AGAINST, AND IF MINORITY DID NOT RESPECT THE
WILL OF MAJORITY, THE WORK OF ILC WILL NEVER GET DONE.

5. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO
APPROPRIATE POSTS. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR, ELECTION RESULTS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE128011
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/LAB:SWHILDEN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770198-0020
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770691/aaaadbmb.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 199d4685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2279644
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC) ELECTS OFFICERS
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, GH, XA, ILO, UN, (AMEDUME, J K)
To: WARSAW
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/199d4685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009